U. S. To Pay Convicts $2.50 a Week Under New Humanizing Plan

Federal prisons are to be "humanized." Federal prison workshops are to be placed upon a basis that will afford convicts a chance to win a bonus for their industry, Attorney General Daugherty announced today.

The Federal prison at Atlanta, Ga., is to have the first "humanizing" experiment, Daugherty said.

The Atlanta prison, Daugherty said, includes a $1,000,000 manufacturing plant, in which cotton goods are manufactured.

Attorney General Daugherty has directed Heber Votaw, new Federal prison superintendent, to proceed to Atlanta, and completely reorganize the methods of operating the factory at the prison.

TO PAY PRISONERS.

"We might as well make men as make goods," said Daugherty. "There are about 400 men at work weaving cotton goods. We are going to operate this plant on a business basis. We will offer the men a bonus of 2 cents a yard on the work they turn out. It will give these men something in the way of an incentive. It's a good thing to let these men know that we have an interest in their work.

"Under the present practice, a man, after serving his term, upon leaving, is given a $10 bill and a suit of clothes. Under our new plan he will have a chance to accumulate savings at the rate of about $2.50 a week. There is a revolving fund of about $150,000 from which these bonuses can be paid."

Superintendent Votaw left Washington last night and is due in Atlanta this afternoon.

MAY AID FAMILIES.

He will take up with the warden of the Atlanta penitentiary the question of readjusting the business methods of the institution, to allow the payment of stipulated sums to the convicts. These payments to the convicts will be in the form of credits," which will be saved for them and delivered at the completion of their terms.

The earnings of the convicts, possibly may be diverted to families who may have been dependant upon them for support, according to the tentative plans of the prison superintendent. The details of this phase of the program remain to be worked out. The new work system may be extended to Fort Leavenworth and other prisons.

Lonaconing Plant to Resume.

LONACONING, Md., April 27.—The Klots Throwing Company has posted notices that it expects to resume operations at its plant here in a few days. A large force is employed when working full. It is rumored that all must reapply for work before being employed.

Pictures Old Schools Of Early Virginia Days

Huntington Man Tells of Origin of System and Primitive Methods of Teaching That Prevailed.

Long before the revolutionary war the log schoolhouse could be seen in what is now the "Old Part of West Virginia," writes Edmund Conaway in the Huntington, W. Va., Advertiser. By this is meant Berkely, Jefferson, Morgan and the valley of the South Branch in which are Hampshire, Hardy and Pendleton counties.

In 1747 George Washington, while surveying lands for Lord Fairfax in the upper Potomac, made an entry in his journal concerning a schoolhouse. This is the first we know of a building for such purposes in Western Virginia. This was 116 years before West Virginia became a State.

Those who are students of State history will remember that as early as the Constitutional Convention of 1829-30, which met at Richmond, that there was much discussion in regard to public education on the part of the western representatives. These were opposed by the members of East Virginia since they did not favor legislation that would benefit the people in what is now our State. The people of Western Virginia wanted an educational system that would favor rich and poor alike since Virginia had in 1846 inaugurated a system of common schools which was little benefit to the poorer classes.

The following statistics for the year 1833 were taken from Martin's Gazateer of Virginia: In 1833 Ohio county had forty primary schools, 500 poor children of whom 282 were in school with an average attendance of eighty-one days. The following was taken from the Federal census of 1850: Marshall county had five teachers, twenty-five schools and 700 pupils. The same year Marshall had 1,031 people who could neither read or write. This number includes white, foreign born and free colored.

In the first Wheeling convention, held May 13, 1861, which led to the formation of our State, the question of education was not neglected. As it was said that many people were leaving this part of Virginia since elsewhere they could better educate their children.

WEST VIRGINIA'S SYSTEM.

When West Virginia became a State in 1863, it had no common school system, but work was at once begun to inaugurate one. June 20, 1863, the Statehood of West Virginia began. On that day the first legislature of our State assembled. Four days later the president of the senate, John M. Phelps, appointed a committee on education consisting of senators. The same day the speaker of the house of delegates, Spicer Patrick, appointed a house committee on education. The joint work of these two committees brought about the first school law of the State. It was entitled "An act providing for the establishment of a system of free schools."

The joint vote of both branches of the legislature on the first day of June, 1864, elected William Ryland White for the terms of two years. Thus began the work of our free school system.

In some parts of the State the citizens objected to the free school system, since, they said, taxes would be too high, but West Virginia was not the only State where such objections were made. Indiana and Michigan, States which became leaders in education, had made trouble in inaugurating their free school system.

Previous to the free systems of schools in our State, the people of the community employed a teacher who was willing to give instruction to all for whom tuition was paid. Usually some resident of the neighborhood taught the school, but in this district a few of our earliest teachers were from Pennsylvania and Ohio.

OLD FIELD SCHOOLS.

Schools were few and those who could attend were not so fortunate as boys and girls are now. Sometimes in going to school they had to travel three or four miles and often over very rough roads. The school period was short. Usually three months, with an occasional four months term. These schools were taught by subscription and were known as "Old Field Schools," from the location of the houses. These schools were in use almost 100 years. The following will serve as an idea of an "Old Field School" in this part of West Virginia. They were constructed from logs. The interior was rudely furnished. The seats were made from trees in the vicinity, such as chestnut, poplar, white walnut and occasionally bass-wood. A log would be split and the flat side would be hewn down smoothly, thus making it serve for two seats.

Two holes would be bored near the ends of each piece into which legs, usually made from chestnut, would be driven. On each side of the house was a writing desk usually supported by wooden pins driven into the wall. Sometimes the desk would be spported by leather hinges, thus permitting it to hang by the wall when not in use. When raised it was supported by wooden pins. Instead of panes of glass, paper was used to admit the light. There was no stove so a large fireplace was used which occupied nearly one end of the house. This fireplace was surmounted by a "Cat and Clay chimney." In the construction flag stones were used for jambs and backwalls. Oak or hickory bars, about one and one-half inches square and varying from probably eight feet in length at the base to three or four feet at the top. Mud was used for mortar in plastering the chimney, both on the interior and outside. The large back logs used for fuel were often drawn in by the hickory bark. The following instance was related to me by an old resident: The Warfield School, which stood near Howard postoffice, now Marshall county, was one of the oldest subscription schools in this county. One morning a farmer was working and was asked if he would haul a backlog to the house. He did as he was requested, but when he came to the door he did not stop but led the horse into the house; turning the horse he rolled the log into the fireplace.

The spaces between the logs were chinked with sticks and stones and daubed with clay, the roof was constructed with platforms held in place by heavyweight poles; the door was made of clapboard and usually hung on wooden hinges; the floor was made from pitcheons spit from the body of a tree.

The people were limited in writing material, which consisted of a goose-quill pen and pokeberry ink or ink made from indigo when the latter could be had. Foolscap paper sewed together served as copy-books. Soap stone was used for slate pencils.

The principal requirements of teaching were a knowledge of reading, writing, arithmetic, able to use the rod. Following are the names of the text-books used: The United States Spelling Book will be remembered by all old residents as being one of the most important. It was later displaced under the free school system of McGuffies'. Our old settlers will remember that in spelling a word each syllable was pronounced separately. Ray's arithmetic; The Western Calculator; Pineo's Grammar and McGuffey's Reader were among the early school books of Western Virginia.

During the subscription periods the tuition varied from two to three dollars a month, or about ten cents a day for each pupil. The teacher usually "boarded 'round," as it was called. I have understood that the teacher would avoid boarding some places and that others would sometimes avoid boarding the teachers. Those who read the "Legend of Sleepy Hollow" will probably have a better understanding of this.

It was in those days that the custom of treating the pupils to candy originated. If the teacher was inclined not to do this different remedies might be resorted to on the part of the pupils to induce him to change his mind. On one occasion pupils of a certain school locked their teacher out, but within a short time he procured sulphur and burnt it under the schoolhouse door, which soon resulted in his getting possession.

When the free school system came into operation the length of the term was usually three months, with an occasional four months' term. The number of months, however, was determined by the amount of money available. The wages of the teachers varied from twenty to thirty dollars a month, depending upon the grade of certificate.

HUBBY OUT EVERY NIGHT, WIFE ASSERTS IN SUIT

NEW YORK, April 27.—"During the entire time I was married and lived with the defendant, he never spent an evening at home and never even took a walk with me. He always used to tell me that he had married me because he pitied me."

In these words Mrs. Helen Krassner sets forth in papers filed with the Supreme Court her story of married life as she has found it. Mrs. Krassner has begun suit for a separation from Peter Krassner.

In her behalf Attorney Jacob Jurn appeared before Supreme Court Justice McAvoy yesterday petitioning for an allowance of alimony and for legal expenses. Justice McAvoy granted $25 weekly for support and $100 for counsel fees.

BOY HIDES BROKEN ARM IN FEAR OF WHIPPING

FROSTBURG, Md., April 27.—Joseph, eight-year-old son of Michael Sullivan, concealed from his parents from noon until 7 o'clock in the evening, the fact that he had a broken arm, in fear of being whipped. He had fallen on a pile of rocks.

His fear was due to the fact that this was the second fracture in a month.